Wildlife Management Division Rule Development

Pronghorn Rule
19.31.15 NMAC

August 28, 2010

NM State Game Commission Meeting

Albuquerque

Pronghorn Management

State Game Commission directed the Department to develop a rule based on the following –

- ✓ Sustainable harvest
- ▪ Equity (A-PLUS)
- ✓ Transparency and professionalism
- ✓ Increased hunting opportunity if possible
- ✓ Longer hunting opportunity and distribute hunters
- ▪ Clear hunt options for landowners and incentives for public access (A-PLUS)

Pronghorn Rule Proposal

General

- Adopt a 4-year rule (2011-14 seasons)

- Establish legal shooting hours as ½ hour before sunrise through ½ hour after sunset

- Include crossbows in the definition of "legal weapon types"

Pronghorn Rule Cont'd

- Adjust management of pronghorn from Antelope Management Units to Game Management Units (GMU)

- GMUs managed as:
  - Optimal Opportunity – Hunting opportunity for all bucks in excess of 20 bucks:100 does
  - Quality Hunting – Hunting opportunity for all bucks in excess of 40 bucks:100 does
- Open Lesser Prairie Chicken Complex to pronghorn hunting

Proposed Pronghorn Hunt Structure – Contingent on A-PLUS

- Option 1
  - All licenses valid on assigned ranch only

- Option 2 (Preferred)
  - First day of hunt – Licenses valid on assigned ranch only
  - All other hunt days – Licenses valid on all legally accessible state leased or federal land or private land with written permission within the assigned GMU

Pronghorn Hunt Lengths (Days)

Hunt	Current Length	Proposed Length
Rifle	2 or 3	3
Muzzleloader	2, 3 or 4	4
Archery	5 or 9	9
Mobility Impaired	2 or 3	3

Pronghorn Rule Summary

- Establishes license numbers and hunt codes
- MI and Archery licenses allocated via public draw
- License numbers to be based on sustainable harvest objectives as outlined in the Department's Pronghorn Management Plan

Public Comment

- 16 meetings across New Mexico during August – 407 participants

- E-mail and written comments
  - None specific to Pronghorn Rule